LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Department of State

INCOMING TELEGRAM

(89)

PAGE 01 SAN SA 05609 250242Z 5528
ACTION ARA-16

INFO	OCT-01	ADS-00	INR-10	SS-15	CIAE-00	ICA-11	DODE-00
	H-01	NSC-05	NSAE-00	SY-05	HA-06	L-03	PM-09
	PA-01	DCT-02	SP-02	SPRS-02	/089 W		

------------------267441 250252Z /66/70

R 241801Z JUL 81
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4848
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PAN/INTAFF

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN SALVADOR 5609

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 2)

E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: PINS, PINT, ES
SUBJECT: DETENTIONS AND POSSIBLE DETENTIONS OF RIGHTISTS

1. JULY 21 PRESS ACCOUNTS IN THE SAN SALVADOR DAILIES REPORT THE CAPTURE BY THE NATIONAL POLICE OF THREE PERSONS IDENTIFIED AS MEMBERS OF THE FEARED RIGHT-WING DEATH SQUAD, "ESCUADRON DE LA MUERTE." ALTHOUGH FROM TIME TO TIME THERE ARE REPORTS OF THIS KIND OF THINGS, PUBLICIZED CAPTURES OF "ESCUADRON" MEMBERS REMAIN RARE. EMBOFF SPOKE WITH NATIONAL POLICE DIRECTOR LOPEZ NUILA WHO SAID THAT IT WAS INTENDED TO TRY THE DEFENDENTS AS RIGHT-WING TERRORISTS UNDER MARTIAL LAW.

2. ON THE SAME DAY THE PRESS REPORTED IN DETAIL THE DETENTION OF THE MAYOR AND LOCAL MILITIA COMMANDER OF NUEVO TEPETITAN, DEPARTMENT OF SAN VICENTE. THEY WERE CHARGED WITH VARIOUS CRIMES AGAINST THE LOCAL POPULATION DURING COMMISSION OF WHICH THEY IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES AS MEMBERS OF THE FPL (FRENTE POPULAR DE LIBERACION). FOUR "PATRULLEROS", MEMBERS OF THE INFORMALLY ORGANIZED RURAL MILITIA, WERE ALSO ACCUSED BUT NOT APPREHENDED. PUBLISHED ACCOUNTS OF ABUSES BY OFFICIAL OR SEMI-OFFICIAL ELEMENTS ARE NOT COMMON HERE. THE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF ARRESTS IN THESE CASES MAY BE AN INDICATION OF GOVERNMENT INTENTIONS TO ACT IN AT LEAST SOME OF THESE CASES. (SEE SAN SALVADOR 5413 FOR AN ACCOUNT OF THE KIND OF CRIMES WE HEAR OF FROM TIME TO TIME COMMITTED BY "PATRULLEROS". IN THAT CASE WE BELIEVE THE CULPRIT IS STILL AT LARGE.)
HINTON

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY _____ DATE 8 JUL 1982
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TS AUTH. _____ EXEMPTION(S) _____
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